

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The amendment filed September 28, 2005 has been modified to address the Official Communication of December 13, 2005 stating that the Amendment was not responsive for including inappropriate claim identifiers.

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

After entry of the foregoing amendment, Claims 2-6 and 18-22 are pending in the present application. Claims 10-17 were previously canceled in response to a restriction requirement. Claims 1 and 7 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, Claims 6 and 22 have been rewritten in independent form and Claims 2-5 and 18-21 are amended to depend from Claim 6 and 22, respectively. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2003/0209774 to Jimbo et al. (herein “Jimbo”); and Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Jimbo.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, Claims 6 and 22 have been placed in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent Claims 6 and 22 and Claims 2-5 and 18-21 depending therefrom are now in condition for allowance.

As Claims 1 and 7 have been canceled, the above-noted rejections are rendered moot.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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